South zone cultural centre

*216. SHRI V. RAMANATHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South Zone Cultural Centre which was started a year back is yet to take shape in the South; and

(b) what steps have been taken to vitalise the functioning of the South Zone Centre, with more frequent cultural events/programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir. The South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 31st January, 1986, has become functional. It has activated and organized a large range of activities.

(b) Does not arise.

Helicopter/Vayudoot service to Kailash-Mansarovar

*217. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce helicopter or Vayudoot services to Kailash-Mansarovar for the benefit of Indian pilgrims visiting the area; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Since Kailash and Mansarovar are located outside the territory of India. There are no proposals for Vayudoot or for Helicopter Corporation of India Ltd. to undertake flights there.

Conversion of Purli-Baijnath-Parbhani rail line to Broad Gauge

*218. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to convert Metre Gauge rail line between Purli-Baijnath-Parbhani section in Maharashtra into Broad Gauge; and

(b) if so, by when this work is likely to be taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a part of Manmad-Parli-Vaijnath conversion. Work is taken up in 1st Phase between Manmad-Aurangabad Commencement & completion of conversion in Parli-Vaijnath-Parbhani section will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

Delinking of jobs from degrees

*219. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether delinking of jobs from degrees as envisaged in the new Education Policy is yet to get fillup in the country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented throughout the country?